

2. NSC Correspondence

10 MAR 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR : Mr. Gordon Gray
Special Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Clearance for Access to COMINT

1. I have your memorandum of March 2, subject as above, indicating your interest in a problem which has been in recent months a subject of serious Board consideration because of the plethora of press stories apparently based on information obtainable only from classified intelligence sources.

2. To respond generally to your memorandum, I wish to assure you that each request for indoctrination for access to COMINT is individually and carefully evaluated and there is a continuing review of the security status and need-to-know of those who have been cleared. The members of the Intelligence Board are responsible for the determination of the security status and of the need-to-know of persons in their respective departments and agencies in accordance with definite and stringent criteria approved by the Board.

3. With regard to your suggestion that the number of individuals who have been cleared and indoctrinated be ascertained, you will be interested to know that such figures are carefully maintained on a current basis by each Board member, and are reported semi-annually to the central register of the Board Secretariat which also maintains a list of those persons outside member departments and agencies who are indoctrinated for COMINT.

4. I have acquainted the Intelligence Board with your interest in this matter. Let me again assure you that it is a concern which is shared by the Board.

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5. I would be pleased to discuss this further with you at your convenience.

S/

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

Typed in USIB/S - 11 Mar 59

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